THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

The Freedom of the Preſs is one of the great Bulwarks of Liberty, and can never be reſtrained but by deſpotic Governments.

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AN ADDRESS

Of the CONVENTION of the REPRESENTATIVES of the STATE of *NEW-YORK* to their CONSTITUENTS.

FISH-KILL, *December* 23, 1776.

AT this important period, when the freedom and happineſs, or the ſlavery and miſery, of the preſent and future generation of Americans is to be determined on a ſolemn appeal to the Supreme Ruler of all Events (to whom every individual muſt one day anſwer for the part he now acts) it becomes the duty of the repreſentatives of a free people to call their attention to this moſt ſerious ſubject; and the more ſo, at a time when their enemies are induſtriouſly endeavouring to delude, intimidate, and ſeduce them, by falſe ſuggeſtions, artful miſrepreſentations, and inſidious promiſes of protection.

You, and all men, were created free, and authorized to eſtabliſh civil government, for the preſervation of your rights againſt oppreſſion, and the ſecurity of that freedom which GOD hath given you, againſt the rapacious hand of tyranny and lawleſs power. It is therefore not only neceſſary to the well-being of ſociety, but the duty of every man, to oppoſe and repel all thoſe, by whatever name or title diſtinguiſhed, who proſtitute the powers of government to deſtroy the happineſs and freedom of the people over whom they may be appointed to rule.

Under the auſpices and direction of Divine Providence, your forefathers removed to the wilds and wilderneſs of America; by their induſtry they made it a fruitful, and by their virtue a happy country; and we ſhould ſtill have enjoyed the bleſſings of peace and plenty, if we had not forgotten the ſource from which thoſe bleſſings flowed, and permitted our country to be contaminated by the many ſhameful vices which have prevailed among us.

It is a well known truth, that no virtuous people were ever oppreſſed; and it is alſo true, that a ſcourge was never wanting to thoſe of an oppoſite character. Even the Jews, thoſe favourites of Heaven, met with the frowns whenever they forgot the ſmiles of their benevolent Creator. By tyrants of Egypt, of Babylon, of Syria, and of Rome, they were ſeverely chaſtiſed; and thoſe tyrants themſelves, when they had executed the vengeance of Almighty GOD, their own crimes burſting on their own heads, received the rewards juſtly due to their violation of the ſacred rights of mankind.

You were born equally free with the Jews, and have as good right to be exempted from the arbitrary domination of Britain as they had from the invaſions of Egypt, Babylon, Syria, or Rome. But they, for their wickedneſs, were permitted to be ſcourged by the latter; and we, for our wickedneſs, are ſcourged by tyrants as cruel and implacable as thoſe.

Our caſe, however, is peculiarly diſtinguiſhed from their's: Their enemies were ſtrangers, unenlightened, and bound to them by no ties of gratitude or conſanguinity. Our enemies, on the contrary, call themſelves Chriſtians; they are of a nation and people bound to us by the ſtrongeſt ties; a people by whoſe ſide we have fought and bled, whoſe power we have contributed to raiſe, who owe much of their wealth to our induſtry, and whoſe grandeur has been augmented by our exertions.

It is unneceſſary to remind you, that, during the ſpace of between one and two hundred years, every man ſat under his own vine and his own fig tree, and there was none to make him afraid; that the people of Britain never claimed a right to diſpoſe of us, and every thing belonging to us, according to their will and pleaſure, until the reign of the preſent King of that iſland; and that, to enforce this abominable claim, they have invaded our country by ſea and by land. From this extravagant and iniquitous claim, and from the unreaſonable, as well as cruel manner, in which they would gain our ſubmiſſion, it ſeems as though Providence were determined to uſe them as inſtruments to puniſh the guilt of this country, and bring us back to a ſenſe of duty to our Creator.

You may remember, that, to obtain redreſs of the many grievances to which the King and Parliament of Great Britain had ſubjected you, the moſt dutiful petitions were preſented, not only by the ſeveral Aſſemblies, but by the repreſentatives of all America in General Congreſs; and you cannot have forgotten with what contempt they were rejected. Nay, the humbleſt of all petitions, praying only to be heard, was anſwered by the ſound of the trumpet, and claſhing of arms. This, however, is not the only occaſion on which the hearts of Kings have been hardened; and in all probability it will add to the number of thoſe inſtances in which their oppreſſion, injuſtice, and hardneſs of heart, have worked their deſtruction.

Being bound by the ſtrongeſt obligations to defend the inheritance which GOD hath given us, to him we referred our cauſe, and oppoſed the aſſaults of our taſk-maſters, being determined rather to die free than live ſlaves and entail bondage on our children.

By our vigorous efforts, and by the goodneſs of Divine Providence, thoſe cruel invaders were driven from our country in the laſt campaign. We then flattered ourſelves that the ſignal ſucceſs of our arms, and the unanimity and ſpirit of our people, would have induced our foes to deſiſt from the proſecution of their wicked deſigns, and diſpoſed their hearts to peace. But peace we had not yet deſerved. Exultation took place of thankſgiving, and we aſcribed that to our own proweſs which was only to be attributed to the Great Guardian of the Innocent.

The enemy, with greater ſtrength, again invade us; invade us not leſs by their arts than their arms. They tell you, that if you ſubmit you ſhall have protection; that their King breathes nothing but peace; that he will reviſe [not repeal] all his cruel acts and inſtructions, and will receive you into favour. But what are the terms on which you are promiſed peace? Have you heard of any, except abſolute unconditional obedience and ſervile ſubmiſſion? If his profeſſions are honeſt, if he means not to cajole and deceive you, why are you not explicitly informed of the terms, and whether the Parliament mean to tax you hereafter at their will and pleaſure? Upon this, and the like points, theſe military commiſſioners of peace are ſilent, and indeed are not authorized to ſay a word; unleſs a power to grant pardons implies a power to adjuſt claims and ſecure privileges, or unleſs the bare poſſeſſion of life is the only privilege which Americans are to enjoy. For a power to grant pardons is the only one which their Parliament or Prince have thought proper to give them: And yet they ſpeak of peace, but hold daggers in their hands. They invite you to accept of bleſſings, and ſtain your habitations with blood. Their voice reſembles the voice of Jacob, but their hands are like the hands of Eſau.

If their ſovereign intends to repeal any of the acts we complain of, why are they not ſpecially named? If he deſigns you ſhall be free, why does he not promiſe that the claim of his Parliament to bind you in all caſes whatſoever ſhall be given up and relinquiſhed? If a reaſonable peace was intended, why did he not empower his commiſſioners to treat with the Congreſs, or with deputies from all the Aſſemblies? Or why was not ſome other mode deviſed, in which America might be heard? Is it not highly ridiculous for them to pretend that they are authorized to treat of a peace between Britain and America with every man they meet? Was ſuch a treaty ever heard of before? Is ſuch an inſtance to be met with in the hiſtory of mankind? No! The truth is, peace is not meant, and their ſpecious pretences and proclamations are calculated only to diſunite and deceive.

If the KING of Britain really deſired peace, why did he order all your veſſels to be ſeized and confiſcated? Why did he moſt cruelly command that the men found on board ſuch veſſels ſhould be added to the crews of his ſhips of war, and compelled to fight againſt their own countrymen, to ſpill the blood of their neighbours and friends, nay, of their fathers, their brothers, and children; and all this before his pretended embaſſadors of peace had arrived on our ſhores? Does any hiſtory, ſacred or profane, record any thing more impious, more horrible, more execrably wicked, tyrannical, or deviliſh? If there be one ſingle idea of peace in his mind, why does he order your cities to be burnt, your country deſolated, your brethren to ſtarve and languiſh, and die in priſons? If any thing was intended beſides deſtruction, deſolation, and bloodſhed, why are the mercenaries of Germany tranſported near four thouſand miles to plunder your houſes, to raviſh your wives and daughters, to ſtrip your infant children, to expoſe whole families, naked, miſerable, and forlorn, to want, to hunger, to inclement ſkies, and wretched deaths? If peace were not totally reprobated by him, why are theſe puſillanimous, deluded, ſervile wretches among you, who, for preſent eaſe, of impious bribes, would ſell their liberty, their children, and their ſouls; who, like ſa-

vages, worſhip every devil who promiſes not to hurt them, or obey any mandates, however cruel, for which they are paid? How is it, that theſe fordid degenerated creatures, who bow the knee to this King, and daily offer incenſe at his ſhrine, ſhould be denied the peace ſo repeatedly promiſed them? Why are they indiſcriminately abuſed, robbed, and plundered, with their more deſerving neighbours? But in this world, as in the other, it is right and juſt that the wicked ſhould be puniſhed by their ſeducers.

In a word, if peace was the deſire of your enemies, and humanity their object, why do they thus trample under foot every right, and every duty, human and divine? Why, like the Demons of old, is their wrath to be expiated only by human ſacrifices? Why do they excite the ſavages of the wilderneſs to murder our inhabitants, and exerciſe cruelties unheard of among civilized nations? No regard for religion or virtue remains among them. Your very churches bear witneſs to their impiety. Your churches are abuſed, without heſitation, as gaols, as ſtables, and as houſes of ſport and theatrical exhibitions. What faith, what truſt, what confidence can you repoſe in thoſe men, who are deaf to the calls of humanity, dead to every ſentiment of religion, and void of all regard for the temples of the Lord of Hoſts?

And why all this deſolation, bloodſhed, and unparalelled cruelty? They tell you, to reduce you to obedience. Obedience! to what? To their ſovereign will and pleaſure. And what then? Why then you ſhall be pardoned, becauſe you conſent to be ſlaves. And why ſhould you be ſlaves now, having been freemen ever ſince this country was ſettled? Becauſe, forſooth, the King and Parliament of an iſland three thouſand miles off chooſe that you ſhould be hewers of wood and drawers of water for them. And is this the people whoſe proud domination you are taught to ſolicit? Is this the peace which ſome of you ſo ardently deſire? For ſhame! For ſhame?

But you are told that their armies are numerous, their fleet ſtrong, their ſoldiers valiant, their reſources great, that you will be conquered, that victory ever attends their ſtandard, and that your oppoſition is vain, your reſiſtance fruitleſs. What then? You can be but ſlaves at laſt, if you ſhould think life worth holding on ſo baſe a tenure.

But who is it that gives victory? By whom is a nation exalted? Since what period hath the race been always to the ſwift, and the battle to the ſtrong? Can you be perſuaded that the merciful King of Kings hath ſurrendered his crown and ſceptre to the mercileſs tyrant of Britain, and committed the affairs of this lower world to his guidance, controul, and direction? We learned otherwiſe from our fathers, and GOD himſelf told us that ſtrength and numbers avail not againſt him. Seek then to be at peace with him, ſolicit his alliance, and fear not the boaſted ſtrength and power of your foes.

You may be told that your forts have been taken, your country ravaged, and that your armies have retreated, and therefore that GOD is not with you. It is true that ſome forts have been taken, that our country hath been ravaged, and that our Maker is diſpleaſed with us. But it is alſo true that the King of Heaven is not like the King of Britain, implacable. If his aſſiſtance be ſincerely implored, it will ſurely be obtained. If we turn from our ſins, he will turn from his anger. Then will our arms be crowned with ſucceſs, and the pride and power of our enemies, like the arrogance and pride of Nebuchadnezar, will vaniſh away. Let us do our duty, and victory will be our reward. Let a general reformation of manners take place. Let no more widows and orphans, compelled to fly from their peaceful abodes, complain that you make a market of their diſtreſs, and take cruel advantage of their neceſſities. When your country is invaded, and cries aloud for your aid, fly not to ſome ſecure corner of a neighbouring State, and remain idle ſpectators of her diſtreſs, but ſhare in her fate, and manfully ſupport her cauſe. Let univerſal charity, public ſpirit, and private virtue, be inculcated, encouraged, and practiſed. Unite in preparing for a vigorous defence of your country, as if all depended on your own exertions; and when you have done theſe things then rely upon the good providence of Almighty GOD for ſucceſs, in full confidence that without his bleſſing all our efforts will inevitably fail.

A people moving on theſe ſolid principles never have been, and never will be ſubjugated by any tyrant whatever. Ceaſe then to deſire the fleſh-pots of Egypt, and remember their taſk-maſters and oppreſſion. No longer heſitate about rejecting all dependence on a King who will rule only with a rod of iron. Tell thoſe who blame you for declaring yourſelves independent, that you had done no more than what your late King had done for you; that he declared you to be out of his protection; that he abſolved you from all allegiance; that he made war upon you, and inſtead of your King became your enemy and deſtroyer. By his conſent, by his own act, you became independent of his crown: If you are wiſe you will always continue ſo. Freedom is now in your power. Value the heavenly gift. Remember, that if you dare to neglect or deſpiſe it, you offer an inſult to the Divine Beſtower. Nor deſpair of keeping it. Deſpair and deſpondency mark a little mind, and indicate a grovelling ſpirit.

After the armies of Rome had been repeatedly defeated by Hannibal, that imperial city was beſieged by this brave and experienced General, at the head of a numerous and victorious army. But, ſo far were her glorious citizens from being diſmayed by the loſs of ſo many battles, and of all their country, ſo confident in their own virtue, and the protection of Heaven, that the very land on which the Carthaginians were encamped was ſold at public auction for more than the uſual price. Thoſe heroic citizens diſdained to receive his protections, or to regard his proclamations. They remembered that their anceſtors had left them free; anceſtors who had bled in reſcuing their country from the tyranny of Kings. They invoked the protection of the Supreme Being; they bravely defended their city with undaunted reſolution; they repelled the enemy, and recovered their country. Bluſh then, ye degenerate ſpirits! who give all over for loſt, becauſe your enemies have marched through three or four counties in this and a neighbouring State; ye who baſely fly to have the yoke of ſlavery fixed upon your necks, and to ſwear that you and your children after you ſhall be ſlaves for ever. Such men deſerve to be ſlaves, and are fit only for beaſts of burthen to the reſt of mankind. Happy would it be for America if they were removed away, inſtead of continuing in this country to people it with a race of animals, who, from their form, muſt be claſſed with the human ſpecies, but poſſeſs none of thoſe qualities which render them more reſpectable than the brutes.

There never yet was a war in which victory and ſucceſs did not ſometimes change ſides. In the preſent nothing hath happened either ſingular or deciſive. Inquire diſpaſſionately, and be not deceived by thoſe artful tales which emiſſaries from the enemy ſo induſtriouſly circulate.

A powerful and well diſciplined army, ſupported by a reſpectable fleet, invade this country: They are oppoſed by an army, which, though numerous and brave, is quite undiſciplined. Notwithſtanding this manifeſt diſparity, they have never thought it prudent to give us battle, though they have often had the faireſt opportunities. True it is, that taking advantage of that critical moment, when our forces were almoſt diſbanded, they have penetrated into Jerſey, and marched a conſiderable diſtance without being attacked. If any are alarmed at this circumſtance, let them conſider that we do not fight for a few acres of land, but for freedom, for the freedom and happineſs of millions yet unborn. Would it not be highly imprudent to riſk ſuch important events upon the iſſue of a general battle, when it is certain Great Britain cannot long continue the war, and by protracting it we cannot fail of ſucceſs? The Britiſh Miniſtry, ſenſible of this truth, and convinced that the people of England are aware of it, have promiſed that the preſent campaign ſhall be the laſt. They are greatly and juſtly alarmed at their ſituation: A country drained of men and money; the difficulty of ſupplying fleets and armies at ſo great a diſtance; the danger of domeſtic inſurrections; the probability that France will take advantage of their defenceleſs condition; the ruin of their commerce by our privateers; theſe are circumſtances at which the boldeſt are diſmayed. They are convinced that the people will not remain long content in ſuch a dangerous ſituation. Hence it is that they preſs ſo hard to make this campaign deciſive, and hence it is that we ſhould endeavour to avoid it. Even ſuppoſe that Philadelphia, which many believe to be of ſuch great importance, ſuppoſe it was taken or abandoned, the conqueſt of America will ſtill be at a great diſtance; millions, determined to be free, ſtill remain to be ſubdued; millions who diſdain to part with their liberties, their conſciences, and the happineſs of their poſterity in future ages, for infamous protections, and diſhonourable pardons.

But, amidſt all the terror and diſmay which have taken hold upon ſome weak minds, let us conſider the advantages under which we proſecute the preſent war. Our country ſupplies us with almoſt every commodity which is neceſſary for life or defence. Arms and ammunition are now abundantly manufactured in almoſt all the American States, and our armies will be amply ſupplied with all military ſtores. We have more fighting men in America than Britain can poſſibly ſend. Our trade is free, and every port of France and Spain affords protection to our ſhips. Other nations, invited by the advantages of our commerce, will doubtleſs ſoon follow their example; and experience muſt convince the moſt incredulous that the Britiſh nation cannot exclude us from the ſea. If their armies have invaded, ravaged, and plundered our dominions and our people, have we not ſucceſsfully attacked them on their boaſted empire of the ocean? Have not our privateers brought into the ports of America Britiſh property to the amount of more than fifteen hundred thouſand pounds? And do we not daily receive the moſt valuable cargoes from foreign countries, in ſpite of thoſe fleets whoſe colours have waved in triumph over the globe? The article of ſalt, about which ſome of you have been uneaſy, will ſoon be fully ſupplied. The ſhores of America are waſhed by the ocean for more than two thouſand miles,

works for manufacturing ſalt have been erected, and proved ſucceſsful, and many cargoes of it are expected, and have arrived in the neighbouring States. Proviſions of every kind abound among us. From our plenteous ſtores Great Britain hath heretofore ſupplied her neceſſities, though ſhe now moſt wantonly and ungratefully abuſes the kind hand which hath miniſtered to her wants, and alleviated her diſtreſs. As to clothing, the rapid increaſe of our manufactures, and the ſupplies we obtain from abroad, quiet all fears upon that ſubject. By the moſt authentic intelligence from Europe, we are informed, that the people of France are ripe for a war with Britain, and will not omit the preſent opportunity of extending their commerce, and humbling their rival. Every State in Europe beheld with a jealous eye the growing power of the Britiſh empire, and the additional ſtrength ſhe daily received from this amazing continent: For they could not but perceive that their own ſecurity was diminiſhed in proportion as her power to injure them increaſed. Whence is it then that ſome perſons pretend to aſſure you that France, Spain, and the other European States, are not diſpoſed to favour you? The wiſe and virtuous of all nations have pronounced our cauſe to be juſt, and approved the manner in which our reſiſtance hath been conducted.

Whoever, therefore, conſiders the natural ſtrength and advantages of this country, the diſtance it is removed from Britain, the obvious policy of many European powers, the great ſupplies of arms and ammunition cheerfully afforded us by the French and Spaniards, and the feeble and deſtitute condition of Britain; that ſhe is drained of men and of money, obliged to hire foreign mercenaries for the execution of her wicked purpoſes, in arrears to her troops for a twelve month's pay, which ſhe cannot, or will not, diſcharge; her credit ſunk, her trade ruined, her inhabitants divided, her King unpopulor, and her Miniſters execrated; that ſhe is overwhelmed with a monſtrous debt, cut off from the vaſt revenue heretofore obtained by taxes on American produce, her Weſt India iſlands in a ſtarving condition, her ſhips taken, her merchants involved in bankruptcy, her deſigns againſt us wicked, unjuſt, cruel, contrary to the laws of GOD and man, purſued with implacable, unrelenting vengeance, and in a manner barbarous, and oppoſed to the uſage of civilized nations: Whoever conſiders that we have humbly ſought peace, and been refuſed; that we have been denied even a hearing, all our petitions rejected, all our remonſtrances diſregarded; that we fight not for conqueſt, but only for ſecurity; that our cauſe is the cauſe of GOD, of human nature and poſterity: Whoever, we ſay, ſeriouſly conſiders theſe things, muſt entertain very improper ideas of the Divine Juſtice, to which we have appealed, and be very little acquainted with the courſe of human affairs, to harbour the ſmalleſt doubt of our being ſucceſsful.

Remember the long and glorious ſtruggle of the United Netherlands againſt the power of Spain, to which they had once been ſubjected. Their extent was ſmall, their country poor, their people far from numerous, unaccuſtomed to arms, and in the neighbourhood of their enemies. Spain, at that time the moſt powerful kingdom in Europe, her fleet formidable, her armies great, inured to war, and led by the beſt Generals of the age, and her treaſury overflowing with the wealth of Mexico and Peru, endeavoured to enſlave them. They dutifully remonſtrated againſt the deſign; their petitions were treated with contempt, and fire and ſword were carried into their country to compel ſubmiſſion. They nobly reſolved to be free; they declared themſelves Independent States, and, after an obſtinate ſtruggle, fruſtrated the wicked intentions of Spain.

Switzerland preſents us with another inſtance of magnanimity. That country was oppreſſed by cruel tyrants, but the people refuſed to continue in bondage; with arms in their hands they expelled thoſe tyrants, and left to their deſcendents the portion of freedom.

Even England, whoſe genius now bluſhes for the degeneracy of her ſons, hath afforded examples of oppoſition to tyranny which are worthy to be imitated by all nations. His ſacred Majeſty Charles I. loſt his head and his crown by attempting to enſlave his ſubjects; and his ſacred Majeſty James II. was for the ſame reaſon expelled the kingdom with his whole family, and the Prince of Orange choſen King in his ſtead. The Engliſh were too wiſe to believe that the perſon of any tyrant could be ſacred, and never ſuffered any man to wear the crown who attempted to exerciſe the powers of royalty to the deſtruction of the people from whom thoſe powers were derived. This practice is not only conſiſtent with human reaſon, but perfectly conſonant to the will and practice of GOD himſelf: You know that the Jews were under his peculiar direction, and you need not be informed of the many inſtances in which he took the crown from ſuch of their Kings as refuſed to govern according to the laws of the Jews.

If then GOD hat given us freedom, are we not reſponſible to him for that, as well as other talents? If it be our birth right, let us not ſell it for a meſs of pottage, nor ſuffer it to be torn from us by the hand of violence! If the means of defence are in our power, and we do not make uſe of them, what excuſe ſhall we make to our children and our Creator? Theſe are queſtions of the deepeſt concern to us all; theſe are queſtions which materially affect our happineſs, not only in this world, but in the world to come: And ſurely, "if ever a teſt for the "trial of ſpirits can be neceſſary, it is now. If ever thoſe of liberty "and faction ought to be diſtinguiſhed from each other, it is now. If "ever it is incumbent on the people to know truth, and to follow it, it "is now."

Rouſe, therefore, brave citizens! do your duty like men! and be perſuaded that Divine Providence will not permit this weſtern world to be involved in the horrors of ſlavery. Conſider! that from the earlieſt ages of the world, religion, liberty, and empire, have been bending their courſe toward the ſetting ſun. The holy goſpels are yet to be preached to thoſe weſtern regions, and we have the higheſt reaſon to believe that the Almighty will not ſuffer ſlavery and the goſpel to go hand in hand. It cannot! it will not be!

But if there be any among us, dead to all ſenſe of honour and love of their country; if, deaf to all the calls of liberty, virtue, and religion; if, forgetful of the magnanimity of their anceſtors, and the happineſs of their children; if neither the examples and ſucceſs of other nations, the dictates of reaſon and of nature, or the great duties they owe to their GOD, themſelves, and their poſterity, have any effect upon them; if neither the injuries they have received, the prize they are contending for, the future bleſſings or curſes of their children, the applauſe or reproach of all mankind, the approbation or diſpleaſure of their great Judge, or the happineſs or miſery conſequent upon their conduct, in this and a future ſtate, can move them; then let them be aſſured that they deſerve to be ſlaves, and are entitled to nothing but anguiſh and tribulation. Let them baniſh from their remembrance, the reputation, the freedom, and happineſs which they have inherited from their forefathers. Let them forget every duty human and divine, remember not that they have children, and beware how they call to mind the juſtice of the Supreme Being. Let them go into captivity like the idolatrous and diſobedient Jews, and be a reproach and a bye-word among the nations.

But we think better things of you We believe, and are perſuaded, that you will do your duty like men, and cheerfully refer your cauſe to the Great and Righteous Judge. If ſucceſs crown your efforts, all the bleſſings of freedom will be your reward. If you fall in the conteſt, you will be happy with GOD and liberty in Heaven.

By the unanimous order of the Convention.

ABRAHAM TEN BROECK, Preſident.

BALTIMORE, *January* 14.

Extracts of a letter from a General officer in the continental ſervice, dated at Trenton, *January* 9.

A REGIMENT of Britiſh troops at Spankton, ſix miles below Elizabeth town, was attacked on Sunday by a party of Jerſey militia. The encounter continued about two hours. Two regiments marched up from Woodbridge and Amboy to reinforce the enemy, which I ſuppoſe has ſaved them. The remains of the 17th, 40th, and 55th regiments, which had been engaged at Princeton, and now amount only to 250 men, are at Bonamton.

"Lord Howe lies ill, and the Heſſian General ſcratched out one half of his hair on hearing the news from Trenton.-----Fifty Heſſians were taken priſoners and carried the other day to Morris town.

"General Mercer is looked upon as out of danger. We loſt a very good officer, Captain FLEMING of the 3d Virginia battalion. Within ten yards of the enemy he called to his men, "Gentlemen, dreſs before you make ready." The Britiſh troops black guarded our people, and damned them, "they would dreſs them," and gave the firſt fire. Our men placed *their* fire ſo well, that the enemy ſcreamed as if many devils had got hold of them. They were encouraged by their officers, and advanced with their bayonets, but were forced out of the field by the braver Americans."

Extract of a letter from an officer of diſtinction in Philadelphia, *Jan.* 11.

"By a Gentleman of character, juſt arrived from our camp, I learn, that General Maxwell and General M'Dougall on Monday laſt attacked a party of the enemy at Elizabeth town, took about 150 priſoners, 30 baggage waggons, and deſtroyed all the boats there. Alſo, by an expreſs this day from head quarters, we learn that General Heath is on this ſide the North river, with a very conſiderable army, and that Lord Cornwallis had ſent a flag to General Waſhington, propoſing a ceſſation of arms for the winter ſeaſon, which has been rejected.

The General Aſſembly of this State is to meet at Annapolis on Monday the 19th of this inſtant.

NEWBERN (North Carolina) Jan. 14.

ON Friday laſt his Excellency RICHARD CASWELL, Eſq; Governor of this State, arrived here. He was met about ſix miles from town by about thirty Gentlemen on horſeback, who accompanied him to Newbern, the bells ringing as ſoon as he entered the town. Being conducted to Mr. Edward Wreiford's tavern, where a handſome collation was prepared, he received from the continental officers and ſoldiers (drawn up for the purpoſe) a ſalute with ſmall arms; the fort, Pennſylvania Farmer, and other veſſels in the harbour, fired many guns, under a diſplay of the colours of the United States, and in the evening the town was handſomely illuminated.

On Monday the 13th inſtant the inhabitants of the town aſſembled, and waited upon his Excellency with the following congratulatory addreſs.

To his Excellency RICHARD CASWELL, *Eſq; Governor or Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over the State of* NORTH CAROLINA.

The ADDRESS of the INHABITANTS of the town of NEWBERN.

May it pleaſe your Excellency,

PERMIT us, in the ſincerity of our hearts, to congratulate your Excellency on your unſolicited advancement, by the unanimous ſuffrages of the repreſentatives of the freemen of this State, to the ſupreme command of the ſame, the higheſt honour a grateful people can beſtow.

Uninfluenced by private ambition and ſordid intereſt, you have ever purſued the good of your country. Mankind have been taught, by your example, that the love of liberty, and a ſteady perſeverance in acts of private and public virtue, are the ſureſt ways to preferment, and the beſt title to the honours of a free State. We have not a doubt, therefore, but that your Excellency's endeavours in your important ſtation will give full ſatisfaction to the moſt ſanguine expectations of the public.

In this purſuit we hope your Excellency will receive the ſupport and aſſiſtance of every lover of liberty and friend to his country; and as the inhabitants of the town of Newbern wiſh to be diſtinguiſhed as ſuch, you may depend on our moſt hearty concurrence, and beſt endeavours, to make your adminiſtration eaſy to yourſelf, and happy to the people.

His EXCELLENCY's ANSWER.

To the inhabitants of the town of NEWBERN.

Gentlemen,

FOR your congratulations on my appointment to the ſupreme command of this State, and your favourable and kind ſentiments of my principles and conduct, be pleaſed to accept my moſt cordial thanks.

My election to that important office, by the unanimous ſuffrages of the repreſentatives of a free people, unſolicited by me, I conſider as the higheſt honour I could receive, and ſhall ever think it my duty to purſue every meaſure in my power for the benefit and proſperity of this State, and to promote the happineſs and ſafety of its inhabitants; in doing which, if I am ſo happy as to give ſatisfaction to the public, my utmoſt wiſhes will be anſwered.

In the courſe of my adminiſtration I ſhall hope for, and thankfully receive, the ſupport and aſſiſtance of every lover of liberty and friend to his country; as ſuch the inhabitants of the town of Newbern have ever diſtinguiſhed themſelves. The reſpect and civilities I have received from them on former occaſions (of which I retain the moſt grateful ſenſe) together, Gentlemen, with your preſent aſſurances, give me the ſtrongeſt reliance on your concurrence and endeavours to make my adminiſtration eaſy to myſelf, and happy to the people.

In COUNCIL OF SAFETY, PHILADELPHIA, *Jan.* 1, 1777.

TO THE PUBLIC.

YESTERDAY there arrived in this city near one thouſand Heſſian priſoners, taken by his Excellency General WASHINGTON, in his late fortunate and ſucceſsful expedition to New Jerſey. The General has recommended to this Council to provide ſuitable quarters for them; and it is his earneſt wiſh that they may be well treated, and have ſuch principles inſtilled into them, whilſt they remain priſoners, that when they return, on being exchanged, they may fully open the eyes of their countrymen in the ſervice of the King of Great Britain, who are at preſent not a little jealous of their Engliſh fellow ſoldiers. Theſe miſerable creatures now juſtly excite our compaſſion; they have no enmity to us. According to the arbitrary cuſtoms of the tyrannical petty Princes of Germany, they were dragged from their native country, and ſold, like cattle, to a foreign monarch, without either conſulting their inclinations or informing them of the place they were deſigned for, the enemy they were to contend with, or the nature of the war. Their pay being a mere pittance, they were encouraged and neceſſitated to plunder; it is therefore nothing ſtrange that they have been guilty of great irregularities, though unequal to the brutal behaviour of the Britiſh troops. But, from the moment they are reſcued from the authority of the Britiſh officers, we ought no longer to regard them as our enemies, at leaſt while their conduct will juſtify our favourable opinion. It is Britain alone that is our enemy, the other powers of Europe are no otherwiſe ſo than as influenced by her, and many of them are from the ſtrongeſt motives intereſted in our favour. It is the officers and troops of Britain only that are heartily engaged in the unjuſt war againſt us, from avarice, ambition, and thirſt of dominion. And notwithſtanding the pains they have taken to prejudice the Germans againſt us, we hope they will find it impoſſible to prevail on them to continue to embrue their hands in the blood of Americans; many of whom are their countrymen. The moſt favourable opportunity now offers to weaken the force of our enemies, by making their auxiliaries our friends; and we earneſtly entreat our countrymen to embrace it, by ſuppreſſing any reſentment that might naturally ariſe on recollecting their late hoſtility, and treating the much injured and deceived Heſſians, now in our power, in the moſt friendly manner; as a people we would wiſh to unite with ourſelves, in cultivating the fertile foreſts of America, extending its manufactures and commerce, and defending its liberty and independency againſt all attacks of foreign and arbitrary power.

By order of the Council.

THOMAS WHARTON, jun. Preſident.

PHILADELPHIA, *January* 2.

THIS week the Virginia ninth regiment, Colonel Thomas Fleming, arrived in this city. The firſt diviſion came on Monday night, and the ſecond came laſt night.

A juſt account of the uſage the American priſoners receive from Lord and General Howe, and the officers under them.—Captains, Lieutenants, and other officers of private ſhips of war, maſters, ſupercargoes, &c. of merchant veſſels, with Indians, Mulattoes, and Negro ſlaves, are all put together between decks, and not allowed to go upon the quarter deck or forecaſtle, or even a ſwab or broom to keep the main deck dry. As to their proviſions, the allowance is very ſmall, and the quality unwholeſome; the meat is ſerved out about nine in the morning, immediately out of the pickle, and if it be not cooked by noon, the miſerable priſoners muſt eat it raw, for the fire at one o'clock is commonly put out. Butter and cheeſe they have none, but inſtead of thoſe valuable articles, they have oil, ſo rank that they cannot eat it. A gill of rum a day is given to them, which is not ſo ſtrong as ſailors grog. They are often twelve or ſixteen hours without a drop of freſh water, nay once they were for twenty ſix hours deprived of that neceſſary ſupply to human nature; and at that time the priſon ſhip had on board no leſs than two hundred and ſixty unfortunate men, who experienced this cruel uſage, and many of whom had formerly lived in affluence. What is ſtill more ſhocking, this priſon ſhip had neither Doctor nor medicine cheſt.

Their treatment of the land forces has been, if poſſible, worſe than that of the ſeamen. When ſome humane inhabitants has dared to exerciſe that chriſtian virtue charity, by giving any trifle of food or drink (clothes would be taken from them) and the guard has obſerved him, he has been knocked down with the but end of a muſket. And their inhumanity has extended beyond this life, for the dead have been thrown out upon the highway and open fields, with this impious and horrid expreſſion, "D——n the rebel, he's not worth a grave."

A copy of a letter to the Right Hon. Lord Viſcount HOWE.

MY LORD,

WHATEVER error the court of Great Britain may have fallen into in the commencement and proſecution of the preſent unhappy conteſt with America, it was certainly a moſt politic ſtep to commit the conduct of this important affair to your Lordſhip and the General your brother.

The name of HOWE is dear to America, and amongſt the many diſtreſſing difficulties we have to ſurmount, it is certainly no inconſiderable one to overcome the predilection we feel for your family. The exalted virtues of your heroic brother, whoſe bones are embraced by that ſoil you are now drenching with blood, often riſe in painful remembrance. We are ready to acknowledge the amicable diſpoſitions that diſtinguiſh your private character, and, whilſt we feel the ſmart of the wounds you inflict, wiſh they had been adminiſtered by another hand. We conſider you as the executioner of another's wrath, not your own; and forgive with as much ſincerity (pardon the alluſion) as the condemned wretch forgives the appointed officer who is about to torture him into another ſtate of exiſtence. The idea I have of your Lordſhip's character compels me to ſuppoſe, that before you undertook this fatal taſk your judgment was fully convinced that the inflexible rules of honour

and equity, the ſpirit of the Britiſh conſtitution, and the ſacred rights of mankind, fully authoriſed the claims of the Britiſh Court over her American ſubjects; and that a refuſal of, and reſiſtance to thoſe claims on the part of America, is and ought to be deemed REBELLION againſt Government. Under ſuch a conviction can we blame your Lordſhip for aſſerting and enforcing the rights of your Sovereign? For my own part, I can lay my hand upon my heart, and with ſincerity declare, if you are ſo convinced, I blame you not. Let the ſame candour, my Lord, be extended to the poor Americans! If they think, and are firmly perſuaded, that neither honour nor equity, neither the ſpirit of the Britiſh conſtitution, nor the rights of mankind, can authoriſe the unbounded expectation of the Britiſh Court, and that it is an indiſputable duty they owe to themſelves and their unborn poſterity to defend their conſtitution againſt ſuch claims, ought they not to be reſpected as then acting upon the beſt principles, however ill founded you may ſuppoſe theſe principles to be; and ought you not to pity while you puniſh.

The preſent diſpute is what the rights of the Crown and Parliament are with reſpect to America, and what they are not. Great Britain would have us acknowledge that her claims are juſt, and that without much reaſoning upon the ſubject. She will not reaſon upon it, ſhe will not hear what we have to ſay in our own defence, but we muſt acknowledge her claims are juſt. And when, my Lord, were acknowledgments of this kind FORCED upon mankind with ſucceſs? To own the ſupremacy of the Britiſh legiſlature over the lives and properties of the people of America, or to own the ſupremacy of his Holineſs over our immortal ſouls, are doctrines which can only be eſtabliſhed by the ſword and the fagot, amongſt men who have the free uſe of their reaſon. But I am perhaps going too far! I mean not to offend your Lordſhip, nor would I be wanting in that reſpect which is due to your character and ſtation. If my zeal upon ſo intereſting a ſubject ſhould appear ſomewhat intemperate, your Lordſhip will make the proper allowance; ſuffer me then to ſhed a few tears over the mangled limbs of my bleeding country! Know then that ruin and deva[illegible]ation, plunder and riot, inſult and murder, mark the way of your ſavage mercenaries over this hoſpitable, cultivated, and once happy land. It is not enough that the hopeful youth, with fire in his eye, and a heart high beating in his country's cauſe, is called forth and cut down in the field of battle, where the crimſon glow of health fades from his cheek, and he yields his breath an early ſacrifice at the ſhrine of liberty; but the voice of the trembling virgin cries aloud to Heaven againſt the brutal force of the falacious raviſher, who, having accompliſhed his infernal purpoſe, ſpurns at the body he has compelled to give the unlicenſed joy.——Take a view of the country before you, villages demoliſhed, cities abandoned, and the miſerable inhabitants driven from their comfortable houſes, where they had long enjoyed all the endearing ſweets of domeſtic felicity, to ſeek ſhelter at this inclement ſeaſon they know not where; whilſt the remains of their property, acquired by long labour and induſtry, are left a prey to unpitying foreigners, who deſtroy, without remorſe, what they cannot immediately uſe, or conveniently take away. Think not, my Lord, that this is an exaggerated picture overcharged in the colouring; facts have juſtified the aſſertion, and the mournful occaſion prompts the ſtile.

Such is the nature of the commiſſion you are come to execute amongſt us. Cruel as it is, I am nevertheleſs firm in opinion that your Lordſhip thinks you are only brandiſhing the ſword of juſtice, not exerciſing the rod of oppreſſion; but how you can think ſo is hard for an American to conceive. I have been told, and fondly encourage the belief, that your Lordſhip holds in contempt thoſe parricides who, through a ſelfiſh motive of ſecuring themſelves, baſely betray their country's cauſe; and that, although you think yourſelf obliged to take advantage of the treaſon, you deſpiſe the traitors. This is a principle of honour worthy your character, and perfectly conſiſtent with the ſentiments of a liberal mind. But I haſten to a concluſion of this addreſs. The unpardonable fault of America now, it is ſaid, is the declaration of independence. When our faults were leſs, they were as hardly thought of, and as highly cenſured; even our modeſt complaints were called preſumption, and diſmiſſed with reproach. No lenient hand was held out to bring matters to a happy iſſue; no alleviation offered to the griefs we thought we ſuffered; no friendly ſhield interpoſed between us and the ruin we apprehended. Independence was ſo far from the wiſh of America, the very idea was diſtreſſing; but hard and cruel neceſſity drove us to the deſperate determination. GOD only knows what the event will be! In the mean time, we would preſs upon you to call forth that humanity, which, like a healing balm, lubricates every generous mind; and though you carry on your maſter's work, let not the hand of rapine ſpread unneceſſary deſolation through our ſuffering country. Arreſt the plunderers greedy graſp, and let not the cries of the deſpoiled virgin call to Heaven for vengeance on thoſe who regard not GOD, and who trample on the ſacred rights of humanity. Wrongs like theſe fix a ſtain even on victory itſelf, which the floods of ages cannot waſh away. Your's &c. [*Dec.* 17, 1776.]

UNITED STATES LOTTERY.

THE SCHEME is,

That this LOTTERY *conſiſt of* FOUR CLASSES *of one hundred thouſand tickets each.*

FIRST CLASS.

100,000 tickets, at 10 dollars each, are } 1,000,000
Deduction at 15 per cent. 150,000

850,000

No.	*Prizes.*		*Dollars.*
1 of	10,000	is	10,000
2	5000	are	10,000
30	1000		30,000
400	500		200,000
20,000	20		400,000
Carried to 4th claſs,			200,000

850,000

SECOND CLASS.

100,000 tickets, at 20 dollars each, are } 2,000,000
Deduction at 15 per cent. 300,000

1,700,000

No.	*Prizes.*		*Dollars.*
1 of	20,000	is	20,000
2	10,000	are	20,000
10	5000		50,000
100	1000		100,000
820	500		410,000
20,000	30		600,000
Carried to 4th claſs,			500,000

1,700,000

THIRD CLASS.

100,000 tickets, at 30 dollars each, are } 3,000,000
Deduction, at 15 per cent. 450,000

2,550,000

No.	*Prizes.*		*Dollars.*
1 of	30,000	is	30,000
1	20,000		20,000
2	15,000	are	30,000
2	10,000		20,000
10	5000		50,000
200	1000		200,000
1000	500		500,000
20,000	40		800,000
Carried to 4th claſs,			900,000

2,550,000

FOURTH CLASS.

100,000 tickets, at 40 dollars each, are } 4,000,000
Deduction, at 15 per cent. 600,000

3,400,000
Brought from the firſt claſs, 200,000
— — — ſecond do. 500,000
— — — third do. 900,000

5,000,000

No.	*Prizes.*		*Dollars.*
1 of	50,000	is	50,000
2	25,000	are	50,000
2	15,000		30,000
2	10,000		20,000
10	5000		50,000
100	1000		100,000
200	500		100,000
1000	300		300,000
15,000	200		3,000,000
26,000	50		1,300,000
42,317 Prizes.			5,000,000
57,683 Blanks.			

100,000 Tickets.——Not near one and a half blanks to a prize.

THIS lottery is ſet on foot by a reſolution of Congreſs, paſſed at Philadelphia the 18th day of November 1776, for the purpoſe of raiſing a ſum of money on loan, bearing an annual intereſt of four per cent. which, with the ſum ariſing from the deduction, is to be applied for carrying on the preſent moſt juſt and neceſſary war, in defence of the lives, liberties, and property, of the inhabitants of theſe United States.

The fortunate adventurers in the firſt claſs, and ſo in the ſecond and third, who draw more than thirty or forty dollars, ſhall, at their option, receive a treaſury bank note for the prize or prizes drawn, payable at the end of five years, and an annual intereſt at the rate of four per cent. or the pre-emption of ſuch tickets in the next ſucceeding claſs as ſhall not be renewed within the time hereafter limited.

Every adventurer in the firſt claſs ſhall have a right to go through the ſubſequent claſſes, but ſhall not be obliged to do it.

The drawers of twenty, thirty, and forty dollars, in the firſt, ſecond, and third claſſes, who do not apply for their money within ſix weeks after the drawing is finiſhed, ſhall be deemed adventurers in the next ſucceeding claſs, and have their tickets renewed, without any further trouble.

If any other ſhall neglect or decline taking out and paying the price of their ticket for a ſubſequent claſs, within ſix weeks after the drawing is ended, their tickets ſhall be ſold to the fortunate adventurers in the preceding claſs, or to ſuch as ſhall apply for the ſame.

The fortunate adventurers in the laſt claſs, who draw fifty dollars, ſhall, upon application to the commiſſioners of the loan offices in the reſpective States where the drawers reſide, receive their money without any deduction; and all who draw above fifty dollars ſhall receive in like manner, without deduction, for the ſums drawn, bank treaſury notes, payable at the end of five years after the drawing, at the loan office of the State in which the drawers reſide. The intereſt to commence from the

last day of drawing, and to be paid annually at the said respective loan offices.

As this lottery is established for the sole purpose of raising a sum of money for carrying on the present just war, undertaken in defence of the rights and liberties of America, in which every individual, and their posterity, will be so deeply interested, it is not doubted, but every real friend to his country will most cheerfully become an adventurer, and that the sale of the tickets will be very rapid, especially as even the unsuccessful adventurer will have the pleasing reflection of having contributed in a degree to the great and glorious American cause.

The managers appointed by Congress are, Sharp Delany, John Purviance, Owen Biddle, David Jackson, Jacob Barge, Jonathan B. Smith, and James Searle, who are upon oath, and give bond for the faithful discharge of their trust.

The drawing of the first class will begin at Philadelphia the 10th day of April next, or sooner, if sooner full.

The public will be advertised as soon as the tickets are ready for sale.

The managers are instructed to sell the tickets for ready money only.

Philadelphia, December 13, 1776.

"IN CONGRESS, NOVEMBER 27, 1776.

"*Resolved*, that it be recommended to the legislatures of the United States respectively to pass such laws as will most effectually tend to prevent the counterfeiting or forging the tickets of the public lottery.

Extract from the minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

PHILADELPHIA, *January* 16.

A PERSON of character, who lately left New York, informs that the inhabitants are greatly distressed for want of fuel, which was so scarce that there was not a tree, fence, or any piece of wood standing for several miles back of the town; and that they had appropriated certain houses to that use, at least fifty having been already destroyed.

Jan. 17. Last Tuesday four troops of the Virginia light horse, commanded by Captains Lee, Nelson, Jameson, and Temple, arrived here.

Since the action at Trenton on the 26th ult. our army have had several engagements with the enemy at Trenton and Princeton, the particulars of which we have not yet come at.—This much we can assure the public, that within these ten days past between 2 and 300 prisoners have been brought to town, consisting of Hessians, Waldeckers, Highlanders, and some British light horse. Our army is now advantageously posted at Morris Town, and are d ily receiving reinforcements; and the enemy at Brunswick.—In our next we expect to have particulars of their proceedings since their departure from Trenton.

The flag lately sent from the enemy was to request permission to send a number of the blankets to the Hessians lately taken prisoners, which was immediately granted.

By letters from General Washington's army of the 8th, 10th, and 11th instant, we have the following authentic intelligence, viz. That our army marched from Pluckemin, and arrived at Morris town on the 6th; that General Maxwell, with a considerable body of continental troops and militia, having marched towards Elizabeth town, sent back for a reinforcement, which having joined him, he advanced and took possession of the town, and made prisoners 50 Waldeckers and 40 Highlanders, who were quartered there; and made prize of a schooner with baggage and some blankets on board. About the same time one thousand bushels of salt were secured by our troops, at a place called Spanktown, about 5 miles from Woodbridge. When a party of our men attacked the enemy at that place they sent for a reinforcement to Woodbridge, but the Hessians absolutely refused to march, having heard we were very numerous at that quarter. The English troops at Elizabeth town would not suffer the Waldeckers to stand sentry at their out posts, several of them having deserted and come over to us.

BALTIMORE, *January* 21.

CONGRESS *has received the following intelligence from the army at* Pluckemin, *in the State of* New Jersey, *January* 5, 1777.

ON the second instant the enemy began to advance upon us at Trenton; and, after some skirmishing, the head of their column reached that place about four o'clock, whilst their rear was as far back as Maidenhead. They attempted to pass Sanpinck creek, which runs through Trenton, at different places; but finding the fords guarded, they halted and kindled their fires. We were drawn up on the south side of the creek. In this situation we remained till dark, cannonading the enemy, and receiving the fire of their field pieces, which did but little damage.

"At 12 o'clock, after renewing our fires, and leaving guards at the bridge in Trenton, and other passes, on the same stream above, we marched by a round about road to Princeton. We found Princeton, about sunrise, with only three regiments, and three troops of light-horse in it, two of which were on their march to Trenton. These three regiments, especially the two first, made a gallant resistance; and, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, must have lost five hundred men. Upwards of one hundred of them were left dead on the field; and with those carried on by the army, and such as were taken in the pursuit, and carried across the Delaware, there are near three hundred prisoners, fourteen of whom are officers, all British.

"Colonels Haxlet and Potter, Captain Neal, of the artillery, Captain Fleming, who commanded the first Virginia regiment, and four or five other valuable officers, with about twenty five or thirty privates, were slain in the field. Our whole loss cannot be ascertained, as many who were in pursuit of the enemy, whom they chased three or four miles, are not yet come in. We burnt the enemy's hay, and destroyed such other things as the occasion would admit.

"From the best intelligence we have been able to get, the enemy were so much alarmed at the apprehension of losing their stores at Brunswick, that they marched immediately thither from Trenton, without halting, and got there before day.

Morris town, January 7, 1777.

"The enemy have totally evacuated Trenton and Princeton, and are now at Brunswick, and the several posts on the communication between that and Hudson's river, but chiefly at Brunswick. Their numbers and movements are variously reported; but all agree their force to be great. There have been two or three little skirmishes between their parties and some detachments of militia, in which the latter have been successful, and made a few prisoners; the most considerable was on Sunday morning, near Springfield, when 8 or 10 Waldeckers were killed and wounded, and the remainder of the party, 39 or 40, made prisoners, with 2 officers, by a force not superior in number, and without receiving the least damage." Published by order of Congress.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

Intelligence received in CONGRESS.

Upon the evacuation of Elizabeth town, General Maxwell fell upon the enemies rear, made 70 prisoners, and took a parcel of baggage.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, *Jan.* 17.

"This day the body of the worthy and brave General MERCER was brought to this city, and interred with the military honours due to his rank and merit. In the death, or rather murder of this Gentleman, our country has lost a gallant officer and a virtuous citizen. His body, covered with wounds and mangled by our savage enemies, was exposed to public view. After he had surrendered himself, and had been carried into an house, he acquainted the enemy that he was a General in the service of the United States; deaf to the voice of humanity and the law of nations, they stabbed him with the bayonet, and with the butt end of a musket battered and disfigured his face. A Captain having received a bullet in each thigh, became a prisoner, but on being informed that he was an officer, he was shot in the breast, languished five days and then died, having testified an oath to this unmanly and barbarous conduct.

"General Johnson, with 1500 Maryland militia, is arrived; they march to-morrow."

Extracts of letters from Princeton *and* Philadelphia, *Jan.* 7, 14, *and* 15.

"Among the officers of the enemy killed at Princeton, is a Captain Leslie, nephew to General Leslie, and second son of the Earl of Leven. He was an accomplished officer. General Washington buried him with the honours of war.

"Princeton is indeed a destitute village. You would think it had been desolated with the plague and an earthquake, as well as with the calamities of war. The college and church are heaps of ruin. All the inhabitants have been plundered. The enemy in their advance upon our troops through the Jersies, called them the rebel army; in their retreat through the same Jersies, they called them the provincials, and sometimes the continental army.

"Major General Grant, who commanded at Brunswick, when Col. Rohl, who was killed at Trenton, on the 26th of last month, wrote to him for more troops, to enable him to hold his posts on the Delaware, he laughed at his application, and sent him word that "He could keep the whole Jersies with a corporal and four men."—N. B. *This same Mr. Grant was caned in South Carolina by Col. Middleton in the last war.*

"Lieutenant Yates, of Col. Read's Virginia regiment, died on Friday last at Princeton. The circumstances of his death merits attention. In the action on the 3d instant, he received a wound in his side which brought him to the ground. Upon seeing the enemy advance towards him, he begged for quarters; a British soldier stopped, and after deliberately loading his musket by his side, shot him through the breast. Finding that he was still alive, he stabbed in thirteen places with his bayonet; the poor youth all the while crying for mercy. Upon the enemy being forced to retreat, either the same or another soldier, finding he was not dead, struck him with the butt of a musket on the side of his head,

He languiſhed a week in the greateſt anguiſh and then died (I declare it upon my honour as a man and a phyſician) of the wounds he received after he fell and begged for quarters. The ſavages murdered a clergyman (chaplain to a regiment of militia) in cold blood at Trenton, after he had ſurrendered and begged for mercy; his name was ROSBOROUGH. It is a proſtitution of language and truth to attribute a fibre of humanity to General Howe's heart. The nature of the ſervice he is engaged in has made him a mere Jeffries for every ſpecies of political iniquity. I write from good information, having picked up a number of anecdotes which juſtify the picture I have given of him.

WILLIAMSBURG, *January* 31.

Extract of a letter from Sir JOHN PEYTON *of Glouceſter County, to the Hon.* JOHN PAGE, *Eſq; Preſident of the Council, dated Jan.* 28, 1777.

"I HAVE ſeen Mr. Edward Hughes, who was taken by the enemy laſt Wedneſday. He informs me there are three ſhips in the bay, a 60, 50, and a 36 gun frigate, under the command of Commodore Hotham. He brought with him the encloſed, and if it is proper that an exchange ſhould be made, ſhall be much obliged to you for your intereſt in bringing it about as ſoon as poſſible. Mr. Hughes gives great praiſe to the Commodore for his generous and humane behaviour, who, after being informed the circumſtances of Hughes's family, &c. gave him his boat, with almoſt every thing in her, detaining a Negro which he ſaid he underſtood was a tolerable pilot, but aſſured him, at the ſame time, he ſhould be returned as ſoon as he got a better; that he did not mean to diſtreſs any individuals who induſtriouſly were going from river to river to ſupport their families.---Hughes underſtood they were to cruiſe here, and expect 7 or 8 ſail more every day."

To Sir, JOHN PEYTON, *North River.*

On board the ſhip PRESTON, *January* 22, 1777.

Sir,

This will inform you that I had the misfortune to be taken by the above mentioned ſhip on Monday the 20th inſtant; and as I underſtand there are a great many priſoners in Baltimore, beg your intereſt for an exchange, which I believe the Commodore will agree to. There are ſeveral other priſoners on board who join me in this requeſt.

I am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

WILLIAM SEON.

To the above letter the Commodore ſubjoined the following lines.

Having on board the ſquadron under my command a number of priſoners, I ſhall be ready to exchange them, if any perſon be duly authoriſed to treat with me for ſuch exchange. W. HOTHAM.

By command of the Commodore. TITUS LIVIE, Sec'ry.

PRESTON, *in Cheſapeak Bay, Jan.* 25, 1777.

The Commodore and his ſquadron, we are told, are gone to the head of the bay.

A privateer from the Eaſtern Shore has taken and brought in two prizes, viz. a ſhip and ſloop, the former laden with mohogony and logwood, the latter with ſtaves. The privateer is named the Northampton, commanded by Captain Power.

The officers who were ſent from Canada by General Carlton are releaſed from their paroles, others of the ſame rank belonging to the Britiſh army having been exchanged for them, by his Excellency General Waſhington.

Friday the laſt day of February next is appointed, by proclamation, to be obſerved as a day of faſting and humiliation throughout this Commonwealth, to implore of Almighty GOD the forgiveneſs of the many ſins prevailing among all ranks, and to beg the countenance and aſſiſtance of his providence in the proſecution of this juſt and neceſſary war.

Deaths.] Mr. RICHARD GREGORY of Glouceſter.

THIRTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away from *Hunter's* Iron Works, the falls of *Rappahanock* River, the 12th of *Auguſt* laſt, a Mulatto Fellow named JAMES, about 5 Feet 8 or 9 Inches high, a ſtraight made Fellow, has rather a thin viſage, has the marks of the Whip on his Back, which he got ſeveveral Years before I had him; he is about 26 Years of age, was ſome Time on Board the *Scorpion* Privateer, and paſſed for a free Man, by the name of *John James*. He left ſaid Veſſel in *Rappahannock* River the 12th Inſtant. Whoever ſecures the ſaid Slave in any Gaol ſhall receive the above Reward, paid at the Gaol before the Slave is taken away, or on delivering him to me on the ſaid River, near *Caſon*'s Ferry, *King George* County.

Forty very likely *Virginia* Born young Slaves will be ſold at *Frederickſburg* the 2d Day of *April*, for Caſh, by

(1) JOHN THORNTON.

To be SOLD *at* JORDAN's, *in* Prince George *County, on* Monday *the* 17th *Day of* February, *for ready Money,*

ALL the perſonal Eſtate of *Richard Bland*, Eſq; deceaſed, conſiſting of thirty very fine NEGROES, Horſes, Mares, Colts, 100 Sheep 100 Cattle, 56 Hogs, Beds and Furniture, double-refined Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Flax and Cotton, Flax and Cotton Seed, Flax and Cotton Wheels, Wool and Cotton Cards, Sago, a Library of Books, Smiths Tools, a new Chariot, riding Chairs, Heckles, a Parcel of Mohogany, a Cutting Box, Scythes, Leather, raw Hides, all Kinds of Houſe and Kitchen Furniture, *&c. &c.*

RICHARD BLAND, Adminiſtrator.

NEWCASTLE, *January* 28, 1777.

THE Subſcriber continues to keep public Houſe at the Sign of two SYCAMORE TREES, where there will be good Entertainment for Man and Horſe.

(11) BENNETT WHITE.

TWO POUNDS REWARD.

STRAYED, or STOLEN, from the Subſcriber, in *Louiſa* County, near the Head of the *Little River*, the 1ſt of *November* laſt, a ROAN HORSE about 5 Feet 7 or 8 Inches high, trots and gallops, with a hanging Mane and Switch Tail, his Trot is remarkably ſhort, and branded on the Shoulder G. Whoever will give me Intelligence of the ſaid Horſe ſo that I get him again ſhall be entitled to the above Reward.

(6) CHARLES BARRET.

STOLEN from the Subſcriber, at *Newcaſtle*, in *Hanover* County, the 9th Day of *November* laſt, a full blooded BAY ROAN MARE, 5 Years old laſt Spring, and near 5 Feet high, has more white Hairs upon her Rump than any where elſe, ſhod all round, but ſuppoſe the Thief may take off her Shoes, to prevent Detection, is a little lame in her right hind Leg, which is very perceivable when ſhe trots. I will give FORTY SHILLINGS to any One who will give me Intelligence of the ſaid Mare ſo that I get her again, or THREE POUNDS if brought Home, and FIVE POUNDS on Conviction of the Thief, if a white Man.

(2) RICHARD JOHNSON.

A PERSON properly qualified to direct the Buſineſs of a Rope-Maker, and can come well recommended, may be employed by applying to the Subſcriber at *York* Town.

(tf) WM. REYNOLDS.

BLANDFORD, *January* 22, 1777.

I INTEND to leave the Colony ſoon, and as there will be no Perſon in the Country, after my Departure, to tranſact the Buſineſs of the Store formerly kept here by Mr. *David Ruſſell*, I beg that every Perſon indebted for Dealings at ſaid Store will have their Accounts adjuſted as ſoon as poſſible.

2 JOHN RAY.

WILLIAMSBURG, *January* 30, 1777.

THE Subſcriber intending in a few Weeks to remove from this State, ſhe hopes that thoſe Perſons whoſe Bonds are already become due will immediately diſcharge them, in which Caſe an Abatement will be made of the Intereſt. And all thoſe who have hitherto failed in giving collateral Security for the Sums for which they ſtand indebted, and whoſe Bonds are now payable, are hereby notified, that unleſs they either pay them by the firſt Day of *March* next enſuing, or give ſuch Security, Proſecutions will be commenced againſt them in Order to procure it. Alſo thoſe Perſons who have hired Negroes of her for the preſent Year, and have not yet complied with the Terms of their Agreement, are deſired to give Bond and Security for the ſtipulated Hire, otherwiſe the Negroes will be taken from them on the 20th of *February*, when a Sale of them is propoſed to be made.

CATHARINE BLAIR.

WANTED immediately, four or five good SEAMEN, to whom I will give 8l. per Month; also a MATE, who, upon coming well recommended, will receive 10l. per Month.---Apply to me at Col. *Harrison*'s Shipyard, or at my House in *Charles City* County. JOHN KENT.

TEN DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away from *Cobham*, in *Surry*, about the Middle of this Month, a NEGRO FELLOW about 40 Years old, having lost the Thumb of his left Hand. He is supposed to be lurking about in that County, or perhaps may endeavour to get to *Zaw* River, *North Carolina*. Whoever delivers him to me shall have the above Reward.

KILSYTH, *near* PETERSBURG, *January* 24, 1777. } tf WILLIAM HAY.

I AM in Want of a Person who understands the DYING and PULLING Branches. Such a One, with a Recommendation for his Sobriety and Diligence, will meet with extraordinary Encouragement, and constant Employ, by applying to me in *Nansemond*. (tf) SAMUEL BRADLEY.

SIXTY DOLLARS REWARD.

DESERTED from my Company, in the 2d *Georgia* Battalion, the following Soldiers, who enlisted with me in *Williamsburg*, viz.—HUGH GREEN, MICAJAH DEFOOS, JAMES STEPHENS, JOHN WILSON, JOHN CAINE, and BENJAMIN DELK. Whoever delivers them to me at *Prince Edward* Courthouse shall receive the above Reward, or TEN DOLLARS for each.

(f) ROBERT WARD, Lieut.

WILLIAMSBURG, *January* 23, 1777.

DESERTED, RICHARD PARKER,

an *Irishman*, between 35 and 40 Years of Age, and about 5 Feet 6 or 7 Inches high. He is a slovenly Fellow, and much addicted to Liquor; had on, and took with him, an old Hat, a new brown Coat, purchased from the Country Store, a Pair of Leather Breeches, and other Clothes, which I do not remember. If he returns to me in *Williamsburg* by the 5th of next Month, it shall operate much in his Favour; if not, he may expect the utmost Rigour of the Martial Law; and I will give four Dollars to any Person who will secure him so that I get him again. As Desertion is become but too common, it is to be hoped that every Friend and Well-wisher to the Cause will exert himself in bringing such Offenders to Justice, and thereby timely suppress an Evil, which, if not discouraged, must be attended with the worst of Consequences.

JOHN R. DAVIES, Lieutenant.

One Hundred and Sixty Dollars Reward.

DESERTED from the Company formerly commanded by Captain *Charles Tomkies*, of the 7th Regiment, the following Soldiers, viz. *Simon Green*, *Thomas Peal*, *George Weston*, *James White*, *Zachariah Pryor*, *Lewis Belvin*, *Aaron Belvin*, *George Belvin*, *Thomas Rawsons*, *Augustine Rawsons*, *Thomas Blackwell*, *William Anderson*, *John Willis*, *Robert Graves*, *Richard Anderson*, and *Mathew Hunley*. I will give the above Reward for apprehending the above Deserters, or ten Dollars for each, to be delivered to Lieutenant *James Baytop*, at *Williamsburg*. The Whole of them I expect are in *Gloucester* County, as the Company was raised there, and are Natives of that Place.

(f) REUBEN LIPSCOMB.

*** Those Soldiers of the said Company who have been indulged with Furlough, are desired to join Lieutenant *Baytop*, on or before the 5th Day of *February*, at *Williamsburg*, or they will be treated as Deserters.

YORK Town, *Virginia*, *January* 23, 1777.

RUN away, on *Friday* the 17th Instant, an indented Servant Man, who came by the Name of JOHN OBRIEN, an *Irishman*, about 21 Years of Age, and a Tailor by Trade, about 5 Feet 6 Inches high, pitted with the Smallpox, slim made, has a remarkable long Head, and down Look when speaking to him, has dark Hair, can write extremely well, had on a brown Friese Coat, a Check Shirt, and a black or blue Waistcoat. He will not pass by his right Name, nor own his Country. Whoever will take him up, and bring him to me, shall have TEN POUNDS Reward, and if secured in any Gaol, and send me Information, so that I get him again, shall have FIVE POUNDS Reward, paid them by WILLIAM DAVIS.

TO be SOLD at the *Rocky Ridge*, on *Friday* the 7th of *February*, if fair, otherwise next fair Day, FIVE SLAVES, consisting of Men, Women, Boys, and Girls. One Half the said Negroes will be sold for ready Money, and for the Remainder twelve Months Credit will be allowed, the Purchasers giving Bond (with approved Security) to carry Interest from the Date if not punctually paid to

PHILIP JOHNSON.
JAMES BRAY JOHNSON.

WILLIAMSBURG, *January* 23, 1777.

THE Commissioners of the Navy are in Want of a Quantity of OAK and PINE PLANK for the Purpose of Ship-Building. Any Person or Persons inclinable to contract for a Quantity of that Article, are desired to attend the Navy Board, in *Williamsburg*, on *Wednesday* the 5th Day of *February* next.

(2) THOMAS WHITING, 1st Com.

FOR SALE, a valuable Tract of LAND in *Westmoreland* County, containing about 500 Acres, well timbered, lying on *Yeocomico* River, has a good Dwelling-House thereon, with an exceeding fine Brick Cellar, and other convenient Houses; it abounds with Fish and Oysters, lies within 300 Yards of *Yeocomico* Warehouse, and convenient to Church and Mills. There are on the said Land more than 1000 Peach Trees beginning to bear. Any Person wanting to purchase may know the Terms by applying to the Subscriber, on the Premises. (4f) JEREMIAH G. BAILEY.

FOR SALE, the Schooner *BETSEY*, five Years old, built at *Boston*, as she now lies ashore near *Pig Point*, the Mouth of *Nansemond* River, with her Sails, Rigging, Cables, Anchors, Masts, Yards, and all other Materials. She is 56 Feet Keel, 22 Feet Beam, and seven Feet and a Half in the Hold, carries 800 Barrels of Flour. Her Materials may be seen at Mr. *M'Koy*'s in *Nansemond*, and any Person inclining to purchase may know the Conditions by applying to the Subscriber at *Fredericksburg*.

4f ELIEZER CALLENDER.

☞ Any Carpenter, or others, that would undertake to get the said Schooner off, shall receive from the Subscriber 120l. as soon as she is afloat.

FOR SALE, a Tract of LAND lying in *James City* County, on *Scimino* Creek, about 7 or 8 Miles from *Williamsburg*, containing about 300 Acres, with a valuable Farm Main thereto adjoining. There is on said Land an exceeding good Dwelling-House, with two Brick Chimnies, two Rooms and Closets, and a Passage below Stairs, and the same above, with Five Places in each Room, other necessary Houses, good Apple and Peach Orchards, and is very convenient to Fish and Oysters. For Terms apply to the Subscriber, in *King William*. (tf) JOHN WATKINS.

WANTED, a SURGEON's MATE for the Brig *Raleigh*, Capt. *Travis*, now lying at *Broadway's*, on *Appamattox*. Any Person inclined to enter the Service are desired to apply to said Captain, or the Surgeon on Board.

FREDERICKSBURG, *December* 31, 1776.

THE Subscriber has about 850l. Sterling Value of *European* GOODS on Hand, which he will dispose of by Wholesale, at a very low Advance, for ready Money.

ROBERT PATTON.

TO be SOLD, or RENTED, a Plantation in *Prince George*, three Miles from *Blandford*, containing 300 Acres of LAND, with a good Dwelling House two Stories high, four Rooms below and four above, a flush Cellar, Kitchen, Quarter, Dairy, Smokehouse, Granary, Barn, Stables, &c. A further Description unnecessary, as no Person will purchase without viewing the Premises. The Purchaser may have his own Time of Payment, paying Interest after twelve Months. Apply to Mr. *Thomas Scott* in *Blandford*, who is empowered to sell or rent the same.—Also to be rented, on *Appamattox* River, a mile below *Blandford*, a DWELLING-HOUSE, four Rooms below and two above, with all convenient Outhouses, together with Land, Orchard, and a good Meadow, being the Seat of the late Lady *Skipwith*. For Terms apply as above.